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McGB

SUBJECT: Khrushchev's Speech in Bucharest

Thus far we have had only excerpts of Khrushchev's speech this morning in Bucharest. On the basis of the little we have, he seems to have gone farther than in any previous pronouncement in withdrawing a deadline for the signing of a German peace treaty. The impatience which Dobrynin registered yesterday with the Secretary is missing in Khrushchev's remarks. And even the usual caveat that if the West were dilatory, the Soviets would be compelled to conclude such a treaty is conspicuously absent.

The excerpted portions could have been taken out of context, but unless they were, Khrushchev's remarks would seem to indicate the Soviets are not in any particular hurry on the Berlin question and do not intend to apply any particular pressures to speed up talks -- at least at this time.

David Klein

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